



# Minutes

## Bicycle & Trails Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 24, 2005

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Cheu called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

**PRESENT:** Scott, Eltgroth, Hubbell, Cheu, and Clark

**ABSENT:** McCann, Hauge, and Parks and Recreation Commissioner Tom Madalena  
Public Works Senior Engineer Julie Behzad

**STAFF:** Public Works Deputy Director Mr. Karl Bjarke  
Public Works Administrative Secretary Karen Nelson

**DECLARATION - POSTING OF AGENDA:** Mr. Bjarke certified that this meeting's agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Bjarke opened the meeting to public comments. There being no comments, the public comments period was closed.

**MINUTES:** The minutes for the January 20, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

### **ORAL REPORTS:**

#### **1. Staff Report**

##### **\* 2004 City Council Goals Regarding Governance**

Mr. Bjarke noted City Manager, Ed Tewes, made a report to Council; Mr. Bjarke will hand out a copy of the report. The report recommends that all committees come up with a work plan to set objectives about what is to be accomplished the following year including interim deadlines and tracking progress on the work plan in meeting the objectives. Mr. Bjarke didn't have any specifics; he surmised that more specifics would come from the PRC. Having annual projects/activities helps determine annual goals. At the next BTAC meeting, it is possible that the PRC Liaison will give members some direction. Karl noted this is an opportunity to think about some things members feel

the City needs to accomplish. Mr. Tewes will not be coming back to BTAC to go over the report.

### **\* Grants**

Bike Lane Striping – Contractor is ready to do cat tracking to add bike lanes along Monterey Road, a little stretch of Cochrane Road, and parts of Butterfield Blvd.

TDA Article 3 funds – Loop Detectors – Under design now, will be done this summer. Will be placed on Monterey Road, and will include painted legends which will be centered over the loop. Member Clark asked that they be tested to make sure they work and Mr. Bjarke agreed to have that done.

Water District Grant Program – promotes putting pedestrian and bike trails next to drainage facilities, including West Little Llagas Creek & Butterfield Channel. We will submit 3 proposals. 1<sup>st</sup> proposal is a trail on Edmundson (across from Starbucks) connecting to the new Indoor Recreation Center (IRC) parking & the West Little Llagas Creek Channel, possibly connecting to Edes Court. This work will be done in coordination with WERC who will mount a bronze bobcat and interpretive area for wildlife preservation. BTAC members asked questions about the proposed project, and while no formal vote was taken, members appeared to support and approved the planned improvements called for in the grant application. 2<sup>nd</sup> proposal is to continue the linear park along Butterfield from Main towards Central. 3<sup>rd</sup> proposal is for a trails study. David Gittleston attended the workshop for grant applications, and Public Works has received encouragement to submit the proposals.

Coyote Creek Connection, from downtown to Malaguerra, including striping, signs, and pavement widening to the trail head is under design.

Member Clark offered that there is a need for a trail for safe access from north Morgan Hill to south Morgan Hill, through the downtown and to the library. Any use of funds to accomplish this would help make our city a nicer place. Mr. Bjarke explained that when we applied for the grant for this trail, we tied it to the Corps of Engineers storm drain channel project, which isn't moving forward very quickly. If a bike path was put in now, it means that it could be destroyed when the flood control is installed. Flood control is Morgan Hill's #1 project; Representative Pombo has been championing the flood control project, and it is getting more political attention.

Mr. Eltgroth asked how the City of Gilroy got their funding for their Trails study. We need a Trails Master Plan to get grant funding, and it has to be encompassed by the County Plan.

When the IRC is built, a median will be installed on Edmundson. Committee members suggested a crossing through the median to facilitate access to the trail adjacent to the storm drain channel leading to La Crosse Drive, as it is anticipated that there will be a lot of pedestrian use coming from the IRC to the La Crosse area. Tucson had a bike/walk committee that would have good examples on the internet of this type of median crossing.

## **2. Countywide Bicycle Advisory Committee Update**

- Member Eltgroth noted that the meeting was canceled this month.
- Tier 1 projects – the person who replaces Member Eltgroth has the job of protecting Morgan Hill's interest on the committee including Tier 1 monies.

### **3. Chair Announcements**

- None

## **BUSINESS**

### **1. Bike Race**

Member Scott reported the Bike Race website is up and running. The buzz is good, athletes are registering. The Council presentation went well; the sponsors made it clear they are absorbing the costs. Posters & flyers are done. The Special Events permit is done. A Neighborhood letter is being drafted; the bike race committee volunteered to host a meeting to address any concerns. Permit for Webcor is being finalized; Webcor needs just a one week window to repair the bridge. Bridge will be fixed and continually maintained for future races. Phyllis Dieter in Recreation was waiting for an outline of the schedule to approve the permit. Member Scott will confirm with Tom that the permit is approved and call Mr. Bjarke tomorrow. She will also look into getting racks from Specialized for bike parking. Specialized will also have a display and provide tune-ups for community bikers. Volunteers can go to website to find opportunities to volunteer. Member Clark asked if the Chamber of Commerce or Downtown Association has been explored for volunteers. Explorer Scouts and Future Business Leaders are also a good source for volunteers.

### **2. Bike Rodeo**

Member Hubbell reported he sent a letter to Safe Moves who has reserved 5/14/05 as the date for the bike rodeo. Police will help out but won't provide any funding this year. The price for Safe Moves increased to \$1500 and we will need to raise the funding. Member Hubbell noted the South Valley Wine Auction has helped fund his son's track program and other programs for the youth. There is a list of businesses in the City with scrip. Is it legal for this committee to fund-raise? If so, where would the money go? Staff will check to find out if it is legal and report back. Member Scott suggested that Specialized could sell t-shirts, water bottles or ID bracelets at the bike race and donate the money to the City for the program. Member Clark suggested that there could be a raffle for a bike that could raise funds. The rodeo will be run like in prior years. It starts at 9am and goes until 3pm or 4pm; shifts will be set up for committee members to help. We will be positioned next to the curb next to Art ala Cart. The bike rodeo needs to be noted on the Art Ala Cart flyer; staff will find out if we can add it. Member Scott will print flyers and hand them out at the bike race. Last year, Art Ala Cart distributed the bike rodeo flyer with their flyer, but it cost extra to print them because we missed their deadline. This year, we anticipate meeting the deadline and having Art Ala Cart distribute them to schools.

### **3. New Member for BPAC**

Staff will check the expiration dates of committee members. Continue this item to the next meeting.

#### **4. Educational Programs (ie. Sprockids/LAB Programs)**

Member Hubbell reported Sprockids is in the hands of the charter school who is very excited about the program. Traffic Safe Communities Network (TSCN) is looking for middle schools to participate since they received a grant. Pilot SR2S program is going – materials should be ready in May. Member Hubbell will e-mail Member Eltgroth to get contact information. 3 day program, 1<sup>st</sup> day of the program talks about helmets (usually taught during PE classes), 3<sup>rd</sup> day is bike skills class. Fastest way to get it going is through TSCN. Palo Alto & San Jose have a program they wrote themselves that they are using in lower grade schools. Using LAB instructors means LAB provides the insurance. TSCN is looking at diversion programs, including a south county pilot program. Member Eltgroth gave them references for the MH Police Chief & Gilroy Police Chief. Continue this item to the next agenda.

#### **5. Bike Parking at Various Community Events**

Member Hubbell reported we are promoting at race. Mushroom Mardi Gras is moving out of Community Park due to pending construction of the IRC. Member Eltgroth pointed out that we need to talk to the event people to make sure they want bike parking, so Member Clark will contact Sunday Minnich to determine if they want the service provided. Member Hubbell suggested that it be determined if members are available to do this, and then go talk to the event people. For last year's bike parking, Specialized had the metal & wooden racks, and used cones plus an E-Z-Up. It was suggested that we need a pool of volunteers for the various events that could include people outside of the committee. BTAC will provide at least a cordoned off area, if not bike parking, at Art ALC also.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- LAB road 1 training class 3/25 & 26. Probably will be at Specialized – contact Member Eltgroth for information
- National Bike Summit 3/16 & 17 in Washington DC
- AB1120 is introducing a \$7 fee for bikes under a Bicycle Recycle & Disposal bill; the fee is assessed through the retailers. The fee is due to large space taken up in landfills.

#### **REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS**

(This is the opportunity for any committee member to have an item placed on a future agenda.)

- Add Cycling award to March agenda – Member Hauge

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm. The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2005 at 6:15 pm.